AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of rearranging sub-codes of two-dimensional quasi-complimentary turbo codes (QCTCs), comprising the steps of:

generating sub-code sets of QCTCs with given code rates; and rearranging sub-codes of a sub-code set with a same or different code rate that is to be transmitted after a sub-code with a predetermined code rate.

- 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the sub-code is <u>in</u> a matrix <u>format</u> with elements representing puncturing and repetition <u>positions</u>.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the rearranging step comprises the steps of:

generating new sub-code sets, a matrix for each sub-code in each new sub-code set having as many columns as the least common multiple of the numbers of columns of each sub-code in the sub-code sets; and

determining priority of the matrixes of sub-codes in each new sub-code set so that a matrix generated by combining matrixes from two of the new sub-code sets has a QCTC characteristic, a higher priority assigned to a more desirable QCTC characteristic, and rearranging the matrixes in each new sub-code according to the priority.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the QCTC characteristic is that elements of the matrix <u>represent</u> have a uniform distribution of repetition and puncturing.
- 5. (Currently Amended) A method of rearranging matrixes of sub-codes of QCTCs, comprising the steps of:

generating sub-code sets of QCTCs corresponding to a plurality of given code rates, each sub-code of the sub-code set being a matrix <u>format</u> with elements representing repetition and puncturing <u>positions</u>;

generating new sub-code sets, a matrix of each sub-code in a new sub-code set having as many columns as a least common multiple of the numbers of columns of subcodes in the sub-code sets;

determining priority of the matrixes of sub-codes in each new sub-code set so that a matrix generated by combining matrixes from two of the new sub-code sets has a QCTC characteristic, a higher priority assigned to a more desirable QCTC characteristic; and

rearranging the matrixes in each new sub-code according to the priority.

6. (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting symbols using sub-codes of two-dimensional QCTCs, comprising the steps of:

rearranging sub-codes in sub-code sets of QCTCs, said sub-codes sets
corresponding to a plurality of given code rates and storing the rearranged sub-codes;
selecting a QCTC with a code rate determined for transmission; and
transmitting symbols using a sub-code in the sub-code set of the selected QCTC.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the rearranging step comprises the steps of:

generating new sub-code sets, a matrix of each sub-code of the new sub-code set having as many columns as the least common multiple of numbers of the columns of each sub-codes in the sub-code sets;

determining priority of the matrixes of sub-codes in each new sub-code set so that a matrix generated by combining matrixes from two of the new sub-code sets has a QCTC characteristic, a higher priority assigned to a more desirable QCTC characteristic; and

rearranging the matrixes in each new sub-code according to the priority.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the QCTC characteristic is that elements of a matrix <u>represent have</u> a uniform distribution of repetition and puncturing.

9 - 14 (Cancelled)

15. (Original) An apparatus for rearranging sub-codes of two-dimensional QCTCs, comprising:

a turbo encoder for encoding an input information bit stream with a predetermined code rate and generating code symbols;

a controller for rearranging sub-codes in sub-code sets of QCTCs corresponding to a plurality of given code rates and storing the rearranged sub-codes, selecting a QCTC with a code rate determined for transmission, and generating a puncturing and repetition control signal for a matrix following a matrix used for a previous transmission among the rearranged matrixes of the selected QCTC; and

a QCTC generator for generating a sub-code to be transmitted by puncturing and repeating the code symbols received from the turbo encoder according to the puncturing and repetition control signal.

- 16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the controller rearranges the matrixes in each sub-code set so that a matrix produced by combining matrixes from two different sub-code sets has a QCTC characteristic.
- 17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the QCTC characteristic is that elements of a matrix have a uniform distribution of repetition and puncturing.

18 – 20 (Cancelled)